

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**Claim 1. (Original)** A thermosetting coating composition comprising a binder wherein 100 parts by weight of this binder comprises:

- (A) 1 to 50 parts by weight of a carboxylic acid group containing amorphous polyester having an acid number of from 15 to 100 mg KOH/g.
- (B) 1 to 50 parts by weight of a carboxylic acid group containing semi-crystalline polyester, said polyester comprising the reaction product of an anhydride of a polybasic organic carboxylic acid and a hydroxyl group containing semi-crystalline polyester.
- (C) 1 to 90 parts by weight of a glycidyl group containing polyphenoxy resin having an epoxy equivalent weight of 150 to 1500 g/equiv.
- (D) 0 to 85 parts by weight of a glycidyl group containing (meth) acrylate copolymer having an epoxy equivalent weight of 1.0 to 5.0 milli-equivalents of epoxy/gram of polymer.
- (E) 0 to 20 parts by weight of a curing agent different from (C) and (D) and having functional groups reactable with the polyester (A) and (B) carboxylic acid groups.

**Claim 2. (Original)** The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the carboxylic acid group containing amorphous polyester (A) is composed of from 50 to 100% mole of terephthalic acid or isophthalic acid or their mixtures and from 0 to 50% mole of an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic polyacid different from terephthalic acid or isophthalic acid, referring to the polyacid constituents, and from 40 to 100% mole of neopentyl glycol and from 0 to 60% mole of another aliphatic and/or cycloaliphatic polyol referring to the polyol constituents.

**Claim 3. (Original)** The composition according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the carboxylic acid group containing semi-crystalline polyester (B) is obtained from the ring opening reaction of the anhydride group of trimellitic anhydride and/or pyromellitic anhydride with a hydroxyl group containing semi-crystalline polyester having a hydroxyl number of from 15 to 70 mg KOH/g, and comprising from 70 to 100% mole of terephthalic acid, 1, 4-cyclohexanedicarboxylic acid or a linear chain dicarboxylic acid containing 4 to 16 carbon atoms and from 0 to 30% mole of another aromatic, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic polyacid, referring to the polyacid constituents, and from 70 to 100% mole of a cycloaliphatic or linear chain aliphatic polyol containing 2 to 16 carbon atoms and from 0 to 30% mole of another aliphatic or cycloaliphatic polyol, referring to the polyol constituents.

**Claim 4. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of Claims 1 to 3 wherein the glycidyl group containing polyphenoxy resin (C) is a Bisphenol A based epoxy resin or a phenol or cresol epoxy Novolac.

**Claim 5. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of Claims 1 to 4 wherein the glycidyl group containing (meth)acrylate copolymer (D) is prepared from 10 to 90% mole of a glycidyl group containing monomer and from 90 to 10% mole of one or more monomer copolymerizable with the glycidyl group containing monomers, said (meth)acrylate copolymer having a number averaged molecular weight of from 1000 to 15000.

**Claim 6. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of Claims 1 to 5 wherein the curing agent (E) is triglycidyl isocyanurate, diglycidyl terephthalate, triglycidyl trimellitate, or a mixture of them, or a  $\beta$ -hydroxyalkylamide group containing compound.

**Claim 7. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of Claims 1 to 6 wherein the carboxylic acid group containing amorphous polyester (A) has the following properties:

- a number averaged molecular weight of from 1100 to 15000,
- a glass transition temperature (Tg) from 40 to 80°C and
- an ICI (cone/plate) viscosity at 200°C ranging from 5 to 15000 mPa.s.

**Claim 8. (Original)** The composition according to Claim 7 wherein the carboxylic acid group containing amorphous polyester (A) has an acid number of from 30 to 70 mg KOH/g.

**Claim 9. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of claims 1 to 8 wherein the carboxylic acid group containing semi-crystalline polyester (B) has the following properties:

- an acid number from 30 to 120 mg KOH/g,
- a number average molecular weight ranging from 1100 to 17000,
- a fusion zone from 50 to 150°C,
- a glass transition temperature (Tg) below 40°C,
- a degree of crystallinity of at least 5 J/g, and
- an ICI (cone/plate) viscosity at 100°C of at least 10 mPa.s.

**Claim 10. (Original)** The composition according to Claim 9 wherein the acid number of (B) is from 50 to 100 mg KOH/g.

**Claim 11. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of Claims 1 to 10 wherein the glycidyl group containing acrylic copolymer (D) has the following properties:

a number average molecular weight ranging from 1000 to 15000,  
a glass transition temperature (Tg) from 40 to 85°C, measured by Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC), according to ASTM D3418 with a heating gradient of 20°C per minute, and  
an ICI (cone/plate) viscosity determined by the ICI method at 200°C of at least 100 mPa.s.

**Claim 12. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of Claims 1 to 11 containing from 0.1 to 5.0 parts by weight, referring to 100 parts of binder, of a catalyzing compound selected from the group consisting of amine, phosphine, ammonium salt and phosphonium salt catalysts.

**Claim 13. (Currently Amended)** The composition according to Claim 1 any of Claims 1 to 12 additionally containing:

UV-light absorbers and/or hindered amine light stabilizers,  
flow control agents, and/or  
degassing agents.

**Claim 14. (Currently Amended)** A clear lacquer containing the thermosetting powder composition of any of Claims 1 to 13 Claim 1.

**Claim 15. (Currently Amended)** The thermosetting powder coating composition according to any of Claims 1 to 13 Claim 1 additionally containing at least one of pigments, dyes and fillers.

**Claim 16. (Currently Amended)** A method for applying the thermosetting powder composition of any of Claims 1 to 13 and 15 Claim 1 which comprises applying it by an electrostatic or friction charging spray gun or fluidized bed technique.

**Claim 17. (Currently Amended)** An entirely or partially coated substrate, wherein the coating material used, is a powder coating composition containing the composition according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 13 and 15~~ Claim 1.